diversification plans prepared with the help of I.I.T., Kharagpur;

(b) if so, the latest position in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA): (a) Yes Sir, such a request has been received from the Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh in March, 2004.

(b) (i) As regards placing orders on HCL is concerned, Department of Telecommunication (DoT) had indicated that the availability of cost effective wireless technology has caused a steep reduction in the requirement of PIJF Cables. DoT had also expressed their inability to place further orders for PIJF cables on HCL without competitive bidding.

(ii) Government has been releasing funds for payment of salary and statutory dues.

(iii) Government of India have got conducted several feasibility studies to consider revival of the Hindustan Cables Ltd. The latest study was conducted by IIT, Kharagpur in March, 2007. This Report was placed before the BRPSE for its consideration. The BRPSE in its meeting held on 09.01.2008 has recommended revival of HCL through Joint Venture with Public or Private Sector, failing which, complete disinvestment after clearing the Balance Sheet of the Company, Accordingly, DHI has approached some PSEs, such as MTNL, IRCON, RAILTEL and POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA which have potential synergies with the HCL for forging an alliance with HCL. No positive response was received. Subsequently, an advertisement was published in the leading news papers on 22.08.2008 seeking Expression of Interest for JV with HCL. No comprehensive proposal for Joint Venture has been received.

(c) Not applicable.

Hike in salaries of employees of PSEs

†1644. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a total number of 244 Public Sector Enterprises are operational in the current year;

(b) if not, the actual number thereof and the total number of employees working therein;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has recently hiked the salaries of 3.78 lakh employees working in these Public Sector Enterprises; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not hiking the salaries of the remaining employees and the future plan for these employees?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA): (a) and (b) As per Public Enterprises Survey, 2006-2007 there are 247 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) of which 217 were operating Enterprises. There were approximately 16.14 lakh employees working in CPSEs as on 31.03.2007.

(c) and (d) Guidelines for 7 Round of Wage negotiations, which fall due on general basis from 01.01.2007, in respect of unionised workmen have been issued *vide* DPE OM Nos. 2(7)/06-DPE (WC) dated 09.11.2006 and 01.05.2008. Boards of respective CPSEs are empowered to revise the pay of workmen based on negotiations with the unions. Guidelines have also since been issued *vide* DPE OM No. 2(70)/08-DPE (WC) dated 26.11.2008 for pay revision of executives and Non Unionised Supervisors in CPSEs. Boards have also been empowered to revise pay of non-unionised supervisors.

Production of cars in country

1645. SHRI DARA SINGH:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the current production of cars in the country for the last three years, till June 2008, year-wise;

(b) the details of new tie-ups in the next 3 to 5 years;

(c) whether it is a fact that road infrastructure as well as non-availability of Steel etc. in the country does not permit production of more cars; and

(d) if so, what remedial steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA): (a) The production of passenger cars for last three years is as under:-

Category	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (April-June)
Passenger Cars	1046133	1238021	1416482	365984

(b) Data on future tie-ups and details of existing tie-ups are treated by private companies as confidential and as such no such information is available with the Government. However, the details of the announced tie-ups in the recent past in the auto industry are as below:-

(i)	Mahindra-Renault	Cars
(ii)	Mahindra-International Trucks Vehicles	Commercial
(iii)	Tata-Fiat	Cars
(iv)	Renault - Nissan	Cars
(v)	Daimler-Hero	Commercial Vehicle
(vi)	Volvo-Eicher	Trucks